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## **Junior Ranger Day set for April 23 at Valley Forge National Historical Park**

*Kids to Hike, Discover History, Examine Fossils and Earn Badges*

King of Prussia, Pa. -- On Saturday, April 23, children can explore Valley Forge's vast terrain, learn about Washington's 1777-78 winter encampment and earn Junior Ranger badges at Valley Forge National Historical Park. The events are part of National Junior Ranger Day, a celebration held at many national parks around the country.



Independent adventurers who dare to discover the park on their own can depart on a self-guided walk from the Visitor Center, equipped with a map and Junior Ranger book, between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. For others, 5 and up and accompanied by a parent, guided one-hour walks at 10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. trek from Varnum's Quarters through the Grand Parade area. Along the way, Park volunteers will showcase site artifacts like fossils, bones and pottery.

Quarter-mile ranger-led hikes, for children 10 and up, embark at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. They'll walk from the Visitor Center to the Muhlenberg Brigade area, meet with soldiers and camp followers from 10:30 to 3:30 p.m., explore the replica soldier's huts and learn about encampment life.

Park rangers and volunteers will also be at Washington Headquarters, considered the pentagon of its day, where the General strategized with his advisors during that grueling winter. The park's renovated 1912 train station, with exhibits and interactive videos about George Washington and his inner circle, will also be open.



For additional information about Junior Ranger Day, visit [www.nps.gov/vafo](http://www.nps.gov/vafo). To make it a fun-filled weekend with the kids, include a trip to the Elmwood Park Zoo, the area's largest arcade at Arnold's Family Fun Center and more. Visit [www.valleyforge.org](http://www.valleyforge.org) for more details.

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